

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

Please amend Claim 11 as follows:

1-10. (Cancelled)

11. (Currently Amended) A polymer-containing composition comprising a block polymer compound, water or an aqueous solvent, and a functional material,

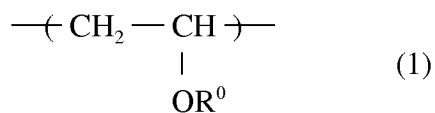
wherein the block polymer compound comprises block segments A, B, and C arranged in succession,

the block segment B is a hydrophilic block segment,

the block segment C is most hydrophilic while the block segment A is most hydrophobic,

the block segment C has an ionic group or an acidic group, and

the block segment C is a repeating unit represented by the following general formula (1):



wherein

R<sup>0</sup> represents  $\text{---X}(\text{COOH})_r$  or  $\text{---X}(\text{COO-M})_r$ ;

X represents a linear, branched or cyclic alkylene group with 1 to 20 carbon atoms,

$\text{---}(\text{CH}(\text{R}^5)\text{---}\text{CH}(\text{R}^6)\text{---O})_p\text{---}(\text{CH}_2)_m\text{---CH}_{3-r}\text{---}$ ,  $\text{---}(\text{CH}_2)_m\text{---}(\text{O})_n\text{---}(\text{CH}_2)_q\text{---CH}_{3-r}\text{---}$  or a structure in which at least

one of methylene groups therein is replaced by a carbonyl group or an aromatic ring structure;

r represents 1 or 2;

p represents an integer from 1 to 18;

m represents an integer from 0 to 35;

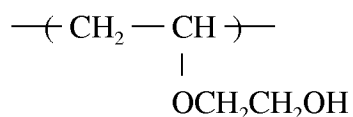
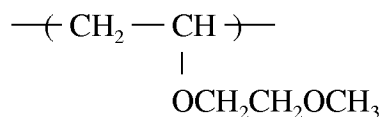
n represents 1 or 0;

q represents an integer from 0 to 17;

M represents a monovalent or polyvalent cation; and

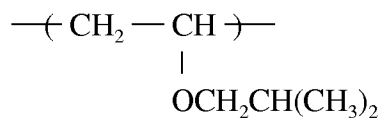
$R^5$  and  $R^6$ , which may be the same or different, each independently represent an alkyl group,

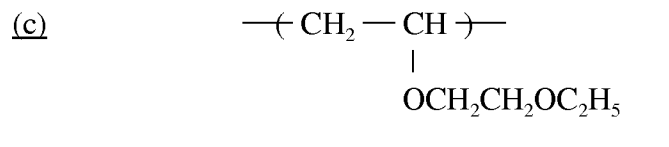
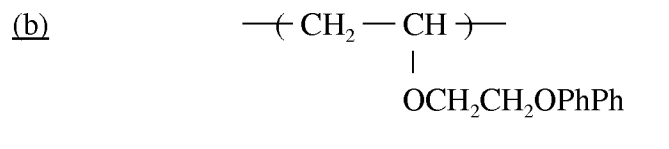
wherein the block segment B is a repeating unit represented by either one of the following formulae:



wherein the block segment A is a repeating unit represented by any of the following formulae:

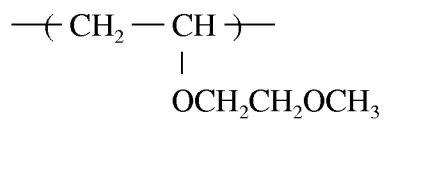
(a)





and

wherein when the block segment A is the repeating unit represented by formula (c),  
the block segment B is the repeating unit represented by



where Ph represents a phenylene group.

12. (Previously Presented) The polymer-containing composition according to claim 11, wherein the functional material is included in the block polymer compound.

13. (Previously Presented) The polymer-containing composition according to claim 11, wherein the functional material is a colorant.

14 - 25. (Cancelled)